

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 28 July 2005. Responsive to the rejections made in the Official Action, Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the combination of elements that form the invention of the subject Patent Application.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Witte, et al. (U.S. Patent 6,831,759). Before discussing the prior art relied upon the Examiner, it is believed beneficial to first briefly review the invention of the subject Patent Application, as now defined in currently amended Claim 1. The inventive apparatus is directed to a carriage module for a scanner comprising a case and an image sensor and mirror set arranged in the case. Additionally, there is a lens set placed between the image sensor and the mirror set which is used to focus the reflected light from a document to the image sensor. Furthermore, the case is composed of a first shell and a second shell, which are telescopically coupled each to the other. The second shell has a larger length than the first shell and is movably arranged in the first shell and can be moved along in a horizontal direction.

In contradistinction, the Witte, et al. reference discloses a light source shutter for scanning transparent media through an overhead reflective light path. The scanner system of Witte, et al. includes a mechanically actuated shutter which is actuated during transparency scanning mode. The shutter is actuated to two

positions (normal reflective mode position, transparency mode position by pins, protrusions, or the scanner walls in the scan module path. There is also a bracket structure which is provided to hold the transparent media and a covering light reflective tent, and can include the pin or pins that can protrude into the scanner module path and thus actuate the shutter only when the structure is mounted onto the scanner by the user.

Nowhere does the reference disclose or suggest, "... the case composed of a first shell and a second shell, said first and second shell being telescopically coupled each to the other ..." as shown in currently amended Claim 1. The Examiner refers to Witte, et al. in Figures 1 and 5 as showing a first shell (housing 50 of Fig. 1) and a second shell (scanner housing shutter 80 of Fig. 5). Although the second shell (80 of Fig. 5) has a larger length than that of the first shell (housing 50 of Fig. 1) the reference does not contemplate the telescopic coupling of the first and second shell each to the other. The first shell and the second shell being telescopically coupled each to the other allows the overall size of the carriage module to be reduced. This reduces the bulky size of the scanner and carriage modules.

As Witte, et al.'s reference fails to disclose each and every element that forms the invention of the subject Patent Application; it cannot anticipate the invention as now claimed. Further, as the reference fails to suggest the

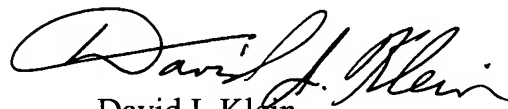
combination of elements now claimed, it cannot make obvious that claimed invention.

While it is believed that the dependent Claims 2-6 add further patentably distinct limitations, those Claims are at least patentably distinct for the same reasons as Claim 1.

The references cited by the Examiner but not used in the rejection have been reviewed and are believed to be further remote from the subject invention as now defined by the amended Claims than that used by the Examiner in his rejection.

It is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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